

Abuse In America

- 4 million American women experience a serious assault by a partner during an average 12-month period.¹
- On the average, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends every day.²
- 92% of women say that reducing domestic violence and sexual assault should be at the top of any formal efforts taken on behalf of women today.³
- 1 out of 3 women around the world has been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused during her lifetime.⁴
- 1 in 5 female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner. Abused girls are significantly more likely to get involved in other risky behaviors. They are 4 to 6 times more likely to get pregnant and 8 to 9 times more likely to have tried to commit suicide.⁴
- 1 in 3 teens report knowing a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, slapped, choked or physically hurt by his/her partner.⁵
- Women of all races are equally vulnerable to violence by an intimate partner.⁶
- 37% of all women who sought care in hospital emergency rooms for violence-related injuries were injured by a current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend.⁷
- Some estimates say almost 1 million incidents of violence occur against a current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend per year.⁸
- For 30% of women who experience abuse, the first incident occurs during pregnancy.⁹
- As many as 324,000 women each year experience intimate partner violence during their pregnancy.¹⁰
- Violence against women costs companies \$72.8 million annually due to lost productivity.¹¹
- 74% of employed battered women were harassed by their partner while they were at work.¹²
- Ninety-four percent of the offenders in murder-suicides were male.¹³
- Seventy-four percent of all murder-suicides involved an intimate partner(spouse, common-law spouse, ex-spouse, or boyfriend/girlfriend). Of these, 96 percent were females killed by their intimate partners.¹³
- Most murder-suicides with three or more victims involved a "family annihilator" -- a subcategory of intimate partner murder-suicide. Family annihilators are murderers who kill not only their wives/girlfriends and children, but often other family members as well, before killing themselves.¹³

- Seventy-five percent of murder-suicides occurred in the home.¹³

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